

NAME:

"LATHER AND NOTHING  
ELSE"  
Discussion Questions

PERIOD

Group Discussion Questions:

Work with one or two other students to answer the following questions. Record your responses in the spaces provided, and be prepared for a follow-up classroom discussion.

<sup>1</sup> Do you think the use of violence to bring about political change can be justified? If so, at what point does political violence cease to be justified? If not, how can political change be brought about if the party in power will not allow compromises?

4. b) Connection: Discuss your answers to the questions above in relation to current world events.

<sup>6</sup>  
5. What is your group's definition of a hero? List the characteristics of a hero and determine whether the narrator possesses these qualities. <sup>7</sup> Draw a conclusion based on your findings.

8. The narrator tells himself, "I don't want to stain my hands with blood. Just with lather, and nothing else." The title of the story comes from this passage. What does the idiom "have blood on your hands" mean? Why is the narrator's word 'stain' an appropriate choice to describe this situation? What is the significance of the title of this story?

<sup>10</sup>  
Why did the narrator use that word?